

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 1649
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Health and Human Services
6-7-95
Enrolled

BACKGROUND

The child care management system, implemented in 1991, fully coordinates all child-care funds administered by the Department of Human Services. Currently, child-care providers receive payment for services based on attendance data supplied to child care management system contractors. This payment process is burdensome and inefficient.

PURPOSE

As enrolled, H.B. 1649 requires the Department of Human Services to develop and implement an electronic data processing system to expedite payments to certain child-care providers.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 22, Human Resources Code, by adding Section 22.026, as follows:

Sec. 22.026. ELECTRONIC CHILD-CARE DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM. (a) Requires the Department of Human Services (department), in order to expedite payments to child-care providers who participate in the child-care management system, to develop and implement a system that uses an electronic scanner or other form of electronic technology to process data that is necessary for the department to administer child-care programs provided by or on behalf of the department through the child-care management system.

(b) Requires the department, in developing and implementing a system under this section, to choose the most cost-effective method for processing the data, and monitor the accuracy of the data using the method developed by the department with the assistance of any applicable work group.

(c) Authorizes the department to contract with a state agency, public entity, or private person or entity to implement the system under this section.

SECTION 2. (a) Creates the Work Group on Child-Care Electronic Data Processing to advise and assist the department in developing the system required by section 22.026, Human Resources Code.

(b) Sets forth the composition of the work group.

(c) Requires the representative of the Health and Human Services Commission to serve as the presiding officer.

(d) Requires the work group to meet at least once each month at the call of the presiding officer.

(e) Makes the appointing agency or office responsible for the expenses of a member's service on the work group. Provides that members of the work group receive no

additional compensation for serving on the work group.

(f) Requires the work group to assist the department in developing a method to monitor the accuracy of data processed by the department through the system developed by the department under Section 22.206, Human Resources Code.

(g) Provides that this section expires September 1, 1996.

SECTION 3. Requires the department, not later than March 1, 1996, to develop the system required by Section 22.206, Human Resources Code.

SECTION 4. Requires the commissioner of health and human services, the commissioner of human services, and the comptroller to designate their representatives to the work group not later than September 1, 1995.

SECTION 5. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.